



**World Organisation for Animal Health**  
**[www.oie.int](http://www.oie.int)**

# **Sustaining Progress in the Life Sciences: Strategies for Managing Dual Use Research of Concern**

**Dr Jim Pearson**  
**World Organization**  
**For Animal Health**

**International Roundtable on Dual**  
**Use Research, Bethesda MD,**  
**November 4-6, 2008**

# World Organization for Animal Health, Office International des Epizooties (OIE)



- **Formed 25 January 1924 as an "international office of epizootics for the control of infectious animal diseases"**
- **Formed in response to an outbreak of an exotic disease, rinderpest, in Belgium**
- **Headquarters is in Paris**
- **Intergovernmental organization, not UN**

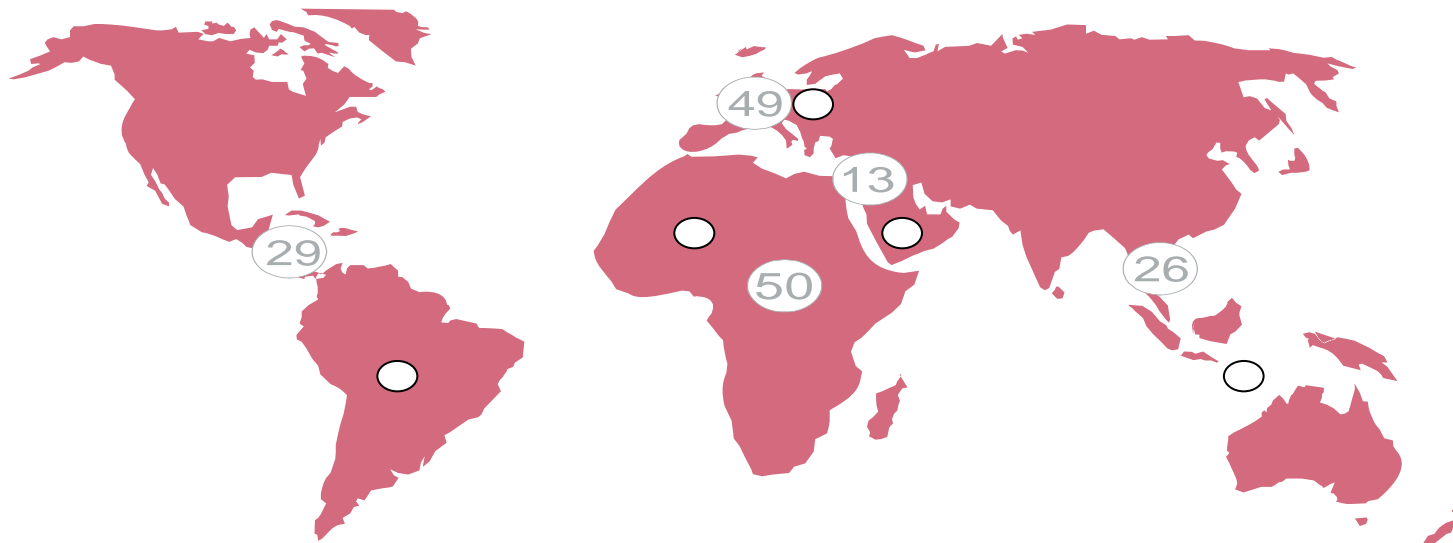
# OIE Headquarters



# World Organization for Animal Health (1924)

## 172 Member Countries ( 2008)

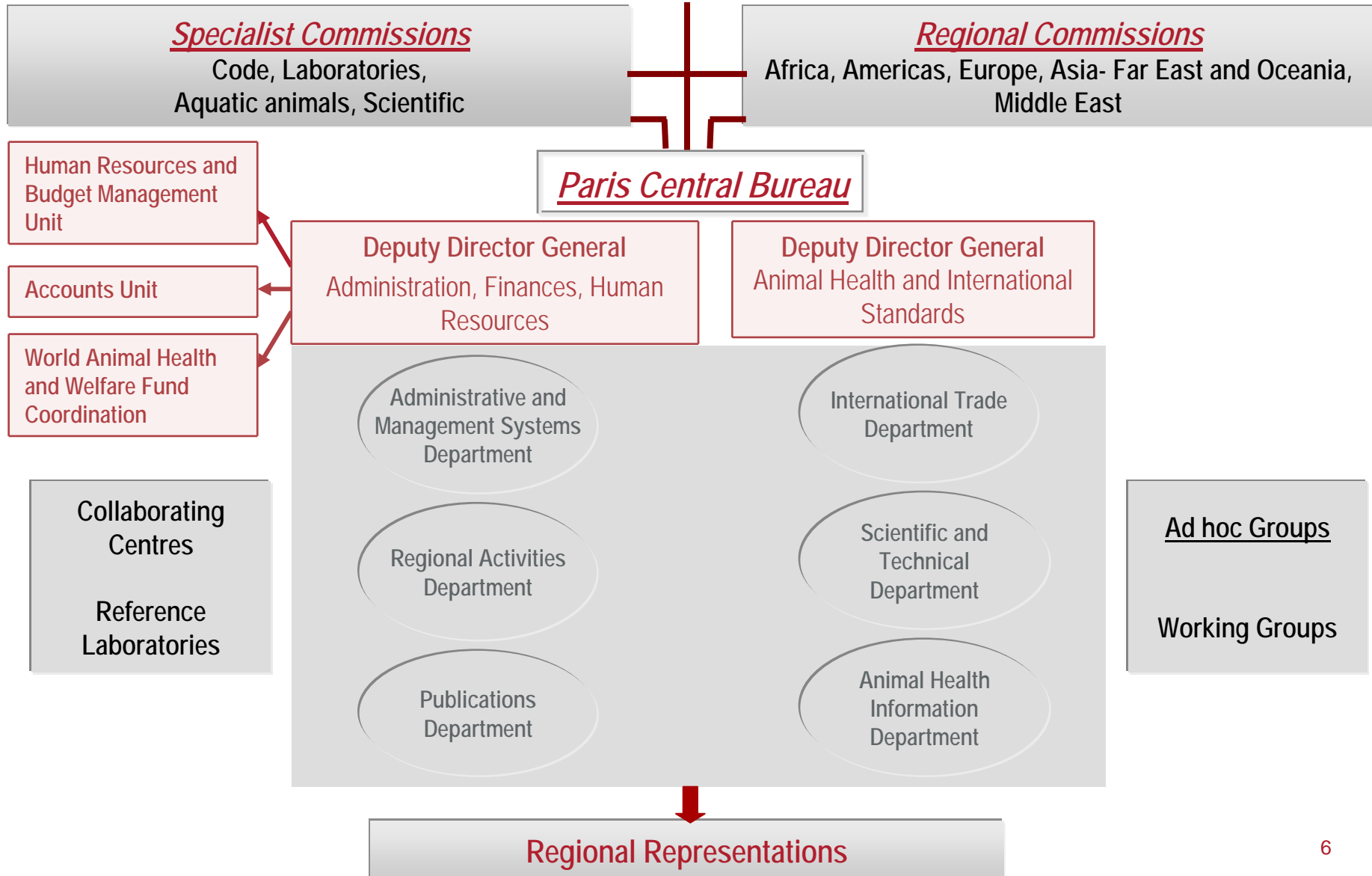
- Small permanent staff, relies on “expert volunteers”
- Five permanent Regional Representations: Bamako, Buenos Aires, Tokyo, Sofia and Beirut
- Five Regional Commissions: Africa, America, Asia-Pacific, Europe and Middle East
- Funded by sliding fee scale for members



# INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

## Administrative Commission

Director General



# The OIE International Committee

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- the highest authority of the OIE
- comprises all the OIE Delegates
- meets at least once a year
- principle of 'one country, one vote'.
- elects the members of the governing bodies of the OIE
- elects the members of the Specialist Commissions
- appoints the Director General for a 5-year term



# International Committee





# Specialist Commissions

**Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission**  
"Code Commission"

**Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases**  
"Scientific Commission"

**Biological Standards Commission**  
"Laboratories Commission"

**Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission**  
"Aquatic Animals Commission"

# Specialist Commissions

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Role is to use current scientific information to:

- study problems of epidemiology and the prevention and control of animal diseases
- develop and revise OIE's international standards
- address scientific and technical issues raised by Member Countries

# OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centers



## Reference Labs

- Provide diagnostic testing facilities
- **Develop, store and distribute reference reagents**
- **Develop / conduct / validate diagnostic tests**
- **195 in 32 countries**
- **115 diseases and topics**
- **170 experts**

## Collaborating Centers

- **Centers of expertise in a specific designated subjects**
- **Coordinate collaborative studies**
- **Provide technical training**
- **Organize and host scientific meetings for the OIE**
- **20 Centers in 13 Countries**

# The basic assumptions of OIE for animal disease control



- **Adherence to OIE standards, guidelines and recommendations**
- **National legislation in support of OIE standards**
- **Supported by good veterinary governance**
- **Transparency**
- **Rapid diagnosis, control and containment**
- **Well functioning infrastructure and resources of Veterinary Services**



# OIE Objectives Related to Dual Use Research of Concern

- Assist in development of veterinary infrastructure
- Increased disease awareness by Member Countries
- Increase in technical competence of Member Countries
- Assist in development of risk analysis capability
- Support and provide guidelines for disease surveillance capability
- Support and provide guidelines development of laboratory capability



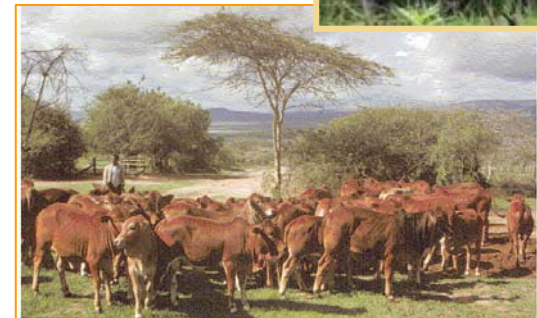
# OIE Objectives Related to Dual Use Research of Concern, cont

- Facilitate early detection of disease introduction
- Provide disease reporting infrastructure
- Provide disease control guidelines
- Provide guidelines for animal movement
- Support science based biosafety and biosecurity programs
- Develop and provide animal health publications

## Summary:

# The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), addressing dual use research

- Provides an early warning system
- Provides International Standards for: Disease reporting, surveillance, disease freedom, diagnostic methods
- Provides an infrastructure of OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centers





*Thank you very much!*

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